

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06931 181755Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W
-----182024Z 065810 /41
P 181645Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7554

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6931

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. WE ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT'S FAILURE TO PROVIDE US THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS AND DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR FBO/SY NEW EMBASSY PROJECT PERSONNEL. MOSCOW 5782 AND 6692 ARE JUST THE LATEST IN A THREE-YEAR-LONG SERIES TRYING TO GET THE DEPARTMENT TO FOCUS ON THIS PROBLEM. GIVEN THE DELAYS INHERENT IN OBTAINING SOVIET HOUSING, WE WILL HAVE A SEVERE HOUSING SHORTAGE SINCE THE EMBASSY HAS NEVER PLANNED HOUSING FOR FBO/SY PERSONNEL. DO YOU THINK A CABLE FROM ME TO MOOSE WOULD GET THINGS MOVING, OR CAN YOU HANDLE WITHOUT ANOTHER MESSAGE?

2. RE PARA ONE STATE 113316, WE ARE PLEASED THAT POL ASSIGNMENTS SHAPING UP AND HOPE THAT PER WILL GET OUT A MESSAGE IN THEIR CHANNEL ASAP SO WE CAN FOCUS ON DATES, ETC. WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH MANDEL PROPOSAL. WILL SHE COME WITH HUSBAND? AS FOR PRESEL REPLACEMENT, WE MAY RPT MAY BE IN POSITION IN FEW DAYS TO SUGGEST YALOWITZ AS REPLACEMENT VIA ONE-YEAR EXTENSION. SINCE HIS CURRENT POSITION IS ALREADY
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ENCUMBERED, THIS WOULD NOT REQUIRE FILLING IN BEHIND THE SHIFT. WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR HIS DECISION, HOWEVER. AT PRESENT, HIS POSITION IS THAT IF PER COMES UP WITH A SUGGESTION HE REALLY LIKES, HE WOULD RATHER LEAVE, BUT IF NOT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO STAY ON A YEAR AND WOULD WELCOME THE BROADENING OPPORTUNITY TO DO POL-ECON INTERNAL REPORTING. HE IS EXCELLENT OFFICER, WELL CLUED INTO THE SCENE HERE AND WE COULD

SUPPORT THIS OPTION WITH ENTHUSIASM. HOWEVER, WE WANT TO
BE FAIR TO KEN AND LET PER DO THEIR BEST TO FIND HIM AN
ACCEPTABLE ONWARD ASSIGNMENT. THEREFORE, WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR NOT RPT NOT MENTIONING THIS POSSIBILITY UNTIL WE SEE
WHAT SORT OF TRANSFER OFFERS WILL BE MADE.

3. RE PARA 3, STATE 113316, CONCUR THAT IT IS BEST TO DISCUSS
WITH AMBASSADOR BEFORE REPLYING.

4. WE WILL NOT BE COMMENTING ON BREZHNEV TOAST AT
KEKKONEN DINNER. GLASMAN'S PIECE SEEMS TO COVER THE MATTER. (REMARKS

,
BY THE WAY WERE ISSUED HERE AFTER 11:00 P.M.)
BY NOW, THEY PRESUMABLY KNOW IN GENEVA
WHETHER THERE IS ANYTHING NEW IN SOVIET POSITION, SO ANYTHING
WE MIGHT SAY IS LIKELY TO BE BOTH ILL-INFORMED AND SUPERFLUOUS
TO BOOT. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW06931
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770177-0229
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770544/aaaablvs.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 03d3e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2471567
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/03d3e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009